

## REMARKS

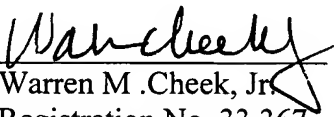
The specification has been amended to reflect the national stage status.

In addition, the claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies in order to reduce the PTO filing fee.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiko IMAKAWA et al.

By:   
Warren M. Cheek, Jr.  
Registration No. 33,367  
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
March 3, 2005